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CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY



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EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

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June 20, 2011

Mr. Jared Blumenfeld Regional Administrator United States Environmental Protection Agency Region IX 75 Hawthorne Street San Francisco, California 94105·3901

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Dear Mr. Blumenfeld:

Thank you for your letter of May 10, 2011 to Governor Jerry Brown seeking the State of California's position on the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (U.S. EPA) proposed listing of the Seam Master Industries and the Jervis B. Webb Co. sites on the Superfund National Priorities List (NPL). The State of California (State) agrees that the environmental threats identified in your letter need to be addressed; however we remain concerned with long-term funding obligations that typically fall to the State at sites requiring groundwater treatment. Accordingly, the State intends to be fully involved in the investigation and remedy selection process.

Please be advised that the State concurrence with any Record of Decision and subsequent agreement to State Superfund Contracts will be based in part on selection of optimal remedial actions that limit or eliminate long term operation and maintenance costs. Where appropriate, the State will be looking to U.S. EPA for substantial application of removal action funding and support for identification and selection of remedies with cost share requirements. The State will also be seeking a cooperative partnership with U.S. EPA in aggressively pursuing cost recovery against all viable responsible parties and creatively identifying alternative funding sources.

Finally, the State intends to develop an overarching policy to affect long term sustainability and optimization of projected State funding sources for cleanup of both NPL Fund lead and State Orphan sites. Meeting this objective will require close coordination with U.S.EPA in developing funding strategies for existing Fund lead sites, as well as consideration of potential long term burden on the State in selection of future NPL sites.

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Long term operation and maintenance at Fund Lead sites may have to be managed in a fashion that optimizes utilization of available funding which could include reduction or elimination of certain operation and maintenance activities based on established budget priorities.

To the extent that the above conditions are acceptable to U.S. EPA, the State supports listing of the Seam Master Industries and the Jervis B. Webb Co. sites on the NPL.

Sincerely,

Linda S. Adams

Acting Secretary for Environmental Protection

cc: Ms. Deborah Raphael, Director

Department of Toxic Substances Control

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